

1.6. Data analysis

All measurements were replicated at least three times and data are expressed in a dry weight basis. The data were statistically analysed using the unpaired *t*-test.

2. Results and discussion

2.1. Fruit production

Results obtained for fruit production are shown in Table 1. It is evident from these data that the two Spanish cultivars (Albar and Negral) are much more productive than the other cultivars. The yield was more than 2-fold higher in the Spanish varieties as compared to the Bulgarian ones (Buketén-50 and Gorogled-6). A factor that could have contributed to this experimental finding is that both Albar and Negral are cultivars with several flowering and fructification cycles while in the rest of varieties, the pods of a given plant reach harvest maturity at the same time.

Table 1

Total fruit yield of several Spanish, Hungarian and Bulgarian red pepper (paprika, Capsicum annuum L.) cultivars as affected by plant-leaf Ti⁴⁺-ascorbate spray

Cultivar	Fresh fruit yield (g plant ⁻¹)	Dry fruit yield (g plant ⁻¹)	Water content (%)
Control plants			
Albar	810 d	193 e	76.2 b
Negral	806 d	188 de	76.7 b
KM-622	458 c	86 a	81.2 d
Mihályteleki	441 bc	107 b	75.7 b
Buketén-50	395 a	78 a	80.3 cd
Gorogled-6	414 abc	159 c	61.6 a
Leaf-Ti sprayed plants			
Albar	839 d	203 ef	75.8 c
Negral	821 d	211 f	74.3 bc
KM-622	466 c	119 bc	74.5 b
Mihályteleki	471 c	122 c	74.1 b
Buketén-50	407 ab	82 a	79.9 d
Gorogled-6	450 c	174 d	61.3 a

Data are the average values from three individual samples. Values followed by the same letter, within the same column and type of plants (Ti-treated or not treated), are not significantly different at a P=0.05 level (unpaired *t*-test).